

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231  
BOX RCE

MAY 05 2003

PTO/SB/20  
U.S. Department of Commerce  
Patent and Trademark Office  
PATENT

REQUEST  
FOR  
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)  
TRANSMITTAL

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000,  
provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application  
Filed on or after June 8, 1995.  
See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

Application Number	08/858,245 #29/RCE
Filing Date	May 19, 1997 5/19/03
First Named Inventor	Roberto Padovani a.j.
Group Art Unit	2682
Examiner Name	Thanh Nguyen
Attorney Docket Number	PA418B

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

*NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which estimated RCE practice.*

RECEIVED

1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114

a.  Previously submitted  
i.  Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on  
ii.  Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on  
iii.  Other

b.  Enclosed  
i.  Amendment/Reply  
ii.  Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)  
iii.  Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)  
iv.  Other

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Technology Center 2600

05/05/2003 N6EBREM1 00000081 170026 08858245

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2. Miscellaneous

a.  Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(l) required)

b.  Other

3. Fees *The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 which the RCE is filed.*

a.  The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 17-0026  
i.  RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) in the amount of \$750.00  
ii.  Request for Extension of time (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.117) in the amount of  
iii.  Other

b.  Check in the amount of \$ enclosed  
c.  Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Date	April 29, 2003	Signature	Albert J. Harnois, Jr., Reg. No. 46,123 (858) 651-4368
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on:

Name (Print Type)	Sheryl Schoen		
Signature	<i>Sheryl Schoen</i>	Date	April 29, 2003

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